

PARK, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

THURSDAY, May 13, 2010

A regular meeting of the Park, Recreation and Community Services Board was held in the Council Chambers in City Hall of Burbank 275 East Olive Avenue, Burbank, California. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm by Whit Prouty, Chairperson.

ROLL CALL

Present Members Prouty, Ferguson, DePalo, Layfer, Yegparian (6:09) **Absent...** None
Staff Present... Director Chris Daste, Deputy Directors Jan Bartolo, Marisa Garcia, Teri Stein, Gaby Flores; Administrative Officer Johnathan Frank, Acting Recording Secretary Paula Ohan

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes approved for April (passed 5-0).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mike Nolan spoke on the potential facility use fee and on Park Patrol.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming events were announced. Presentations were made to the Youth Art Expo award winners. Certificates of Recognition were presented to the participants of the fall 2009 and spring 2010 CIT program.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Ovrom Park Programming

Victoria O'Neil, Recreation Supervisor at Ovrom Park Community Center, explained that prior to the opening of the facility the South San Fernando area had been underserved in terms of open space and recreational opportunities. Staff has tried to fill the gap and develop programming for area residents and the Burbank community. The large multi-purpose room hosts dance and exercise classes, youth activities, and meetings. The children's room provides kinder and tiny tot programs, mommy and me, craft classes, drop-in activities and space for Coach and Scorekeeper trainings through the Sports office. The Lobby area provides free wi-fi, plenty of seating and (coming soon) a flat screen television, which will show the local Burbank channel and City information. There is a lighted outdoor basketball court for free play and practices scheduled through the Sports Office. This summer, there will be a new cardio class that combines basketball and hip hop moves. The passive picnic area includes 2 picnic areas with barbeques, 2 gazebos, 2 kids play areas, a shade structure to be put in by Fall, and a security system with 5 cameras throughout the park to monitor the park area. Ovrom Community Center focuses on creating community partnerships and partnerships that engage the community. The Connect with your Community program assists with the recruitment of volunteers for the Counselor in Training (CIT) program, youth drop-in program and any special events by including these opportunities in their quarterly newsletter, which is distributed to all high schools in Burbank. Ovrom employees also provide staff support for the Burbank Youth Task Force (BYTF). BYTF is a collaborative effort between stakeholders and youth service providers. Partners include representatives from the City Council, Park, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) staff, Youth Board, Police Department, Library, and CDD staff, Youth Employment, BUSD administration, Burbank Parent/Teacher Association, Human Relations Council, Child Care Committee, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Family Services, and the Ministerial Association. Their mission is to identify and address evolving emotional, social, health and safety needs of Burbank youth. It is a coalition of civic leaders, service providers and youth committed to the development of a coordinated system of service opportunities and resources to support and improve the lives of youth and families. In June, the BYTF will be presenting their recommendations for youth programs to City Council. Ovrom teen programs include Youth Board, the CIT Program, Mobile Recreation, Kids at Play, Teens in Action and the teen website (www.burbankteens.com). Due to the limited time to prepare for programs in the summer of 2009, there were 16 classes offered at the park, 3 one-week specialty camps and a kinder prep and play camp. In the fall of 2009, programming was held off until the spring of 2010 due to McCambridge Recreation Center's retrofit. During fall 2009 and winter 2010, Ovrom accommodated 44 McCambridge Recreation Center classes, the Burbank Band, and the monthly BCR dances. Staff was able to find additional time slots to add and keep 10 classes, which were able to remain at Ovrom during the retrofit and remained after the transition. In spring 2010, the facility was programmed light (due to construction at McCambridge) with 16 classes and 3 of McCambridge's ballet classes. Ovrom drop-in classes provided 46 activities in 7 days (with a total enrollment of 615). In spring 2009, the center provided 46 drop-in classes in 5 days (with a total enrollment of 674). The cost ranged from \$3-5 per class. This summer, there will be over 45 classes and programs available. Some summer highlights include: new classes piloxing (boxing and Pilates), family bootcamp, language arts, tot dance, cheerleading, tot summer fun daze, and fun daze for preschoolers entering kindergarten. Staff works hard to meet needs of the community and are excited to offer so many new recreational opportunities to the community.

ACTION Note and File

2. Aquatics Annual Report

Ms. Garcia reported on the 2009 aquatics season. The City utilized McCambridge swimming pool as well as Burbank and Burroughs High School pools for programming. The City entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with BUSD for use of their pools to minimize the impact of not having Verdugo Pool (which remains closed). Last season, McCambridge opened the weekend of June 6-7. Daily swim lessons began June 15 and the season was extended through October 16. The Aquatics brochure was available in April. Postcards were mailed to participants, a lap swim flyer was emailed to lap swimmers, the website was kept up to date, email blitzes were sent out, and Twitter was utilized to send information to participants. Staff attended pre-season meetings and in-service trainings. The American Red Cross taught Lifeguard and Lifeguard Instructor classes, and there were weekly in-service trainings. The Aquatics Coordinator resigned prior to season beginning so other staff was worked out-of-class in the position. The Recreation Services Manager and Recreation Supervisors provided additional on-site supervision. Because there were 3 facilities it was important to rotate staff and have all sites supervised accordingly. Aquatics participation numbers were reviewed. Recreational swim for 2009 decreased due to the impact of not having Verdugo Pool open, in addition to the season not being as hot as the previous year. The lap swim season was extended, however, numbers slightly dropped due partly to the different location of the pool. The learn to swim enrollment numbers increased. The 2010 aquatics season will continue to use McCambridge, Burbank and Burroughs pools. McCambridge pool will open the weekend of May 29. Daily swim and lessons will begin June 7. The water carnival will take place August 4 and a \$5 admission fee will be implemented to offset the growing expenses. With the exception of the carnival fee, we are not implementing any increases in any fees. The Verdugo Aquatics Center project is underway. The \$7.3 million project has been funded by City Council. The schematic design has been completed and is on schedule for construction for completion in fall 2011. The visual design was shown and reviewed.

Ms Garcia provided the following information in response to Boardmember's questions. At least 2 mature trees would be lost due to the extension, as well as some younger trees with the additional parking. However, the project will be complying with the code as far as adding trees to the parking area and staff has talked about adding trees along the parkway. Planting trees too close to the pool area could create potential issues from debris, etc. A Boardmember pointed out that the number of participants during the extended season confirms the value of extending the program and could be pointed out to City Council in support of a year-round program. It is uncertain at this time if the concessionaire will be run by staff or contracted out but it is the intention to provide healthy food options for the public. A Boardmember requested a substantial amount of shade structures be included. Daycamps would be going to McCambridge pool. Both the McCambridge and Verdugo pools would have the capability to be enclosed in the future (although only the 50-meter pool at the Verdugo Aquatics Center would have that option). It is anticipated that the project will go out to bid in September and beginning construction in October 2010 for a 12-month construction period. Staff hopes the pool will be open by September 2011 in time for the Centennial Celebration.

ACTION Note and File

OLD BUSINESS

1. City Council Agenda Items

Mr. Daste reported on the following City Council items: City Council approved the LA84 Grant on April 27; and City Council approved an authorization to amend the fiscal budget to appropriate revenues from the Sprint agreement for future park capital improvement projects on May 11. Upcoming on May 18, City Council will review the PRCS Budget at the study session; on May 27, Council will review the City's discussion papers (including the free parkway plant-a-tree program, tree and storm water containment program, BMX Bicycle use at the Skatepark, recurring youth services budget, centennial celebration, and the Park Patrol joint item). On June 1, staff will present the Valley Park Ballfield Pole Project item and the first reading of the Outside Arborists Ordinance will take place. In response to inquiries, Mr. Frank noted that City Council had not commented on the user fee option but had been presented with the letter from the Board. Ms. Bartolo added that it is the Police Department's intention to present the five options that were heard by the Board. Ms. Garcia noted that there are many variations to the five options presented.

ACTION Note and File

1. **Trails Committee**- Mr. Yegparian reported that the group discussed a proposal for a brand new mountain bike trail parallel to the Verdugo motorway and the possibility of one-time grants.

ACTION Note and File

2. **Senior Board**- Mr. DePalo attended the April 28 meeting. He announced that a garage sale would take place on June 12 and the proceeds would go towards the senior nutrition program. He mentioned that staff is working together to ensure the McCambridge move is going well. He highly recommended volunteering which he thought was quite a rewarding way to give back to the community.

ACTION Note and File

3. **Burbank Athletic Federation**- Mr. DePalo reported that Civitan Day is June 19 and Ponytail Jamboree is on June 26. This year, there will be a walking parade from Burroughs to Izay Park. There are four candidates for the Walk of Fame induction this October.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

Mr. Nolan spoke on Park Patrol.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND STAFF

Mr. Ferguson reminded staff that he would like a report on childcare and daycamps. Mr. DePalo thanked the Veterans Commemorative Committee, staff and the community for attending the memorable Maxam Park dedication and the Burbank Elks for their potluck. Mr. Yegparian announced a stroke awareness program would take place at the Joslyn Center on May 22. Mr. Layfer thanks Mr. DePalo for his leadership and involvement in the Maxam event. Mr. Prouty thanked staff for their great work on the Dodger Night event that he attended.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

CHAIR: _____ **Date:** _____

SECRETARY: _____ **Date:** _____